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Principles before people

Student seeks to overturn Sexual Assault Centre referendum victory

BY MATTHEW ROSENBERG

Not all students agree with the outcome of a recent Students' Society referendum which granted a student levy to the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill's Students' Society (SACOMSS).

Management student Howard Markowitz is challenging the referendum results on the grounds that the wording of the question was "misleading", and thus in violation of the Students' Society (SSMU) constitution. He has taken his appeal to the Students' Society's Judicial Board, despite the fact that the question passed with over 80 per cent of the vote.

Markowitz objected to the first part of the question which stated, "In order to maintain the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Student's Society...". He claimed the wording implied that the SACOMSS will cease to exist without the increased funding ensured by the passage of the referendum question.

Markowitz contended that this is the farthest thing from the truth and that the SACOMSS will survive with or without direct student funding. Until now, SACOMSS has received all of its funding from the Students' Society.

The organisation has countered Markowitz's assertions by stating that over the past year the SACOMSS has expanded its services, making the present level of funding insufficient. The SACOMSS also noted that they provide a crucial service.

Cara Cameron, the Outreach Coordinator for SACOMSS, said she felt Markowitz's challenge was inappropriate given the organisation's important role on campus. At the judicial board hearing last Friday she said, "We're not a club, we don't have pizza nights and movie time, we talk about rape and incest."

During the hearing, Markowitz explained that he appealed to the Judicial Board as an attempt to maintain the integrity of the Students' Society. He noted that he was actually in favor of the work the SACOMSS does, but could not support that question due to its misleading nature.

"If people can't believe what's on a ballot I can't see any future for the SSMU or the Sexual Assault Cen-

tre," said Markowitz. He added that he considers the question to be a "violation" of the students' trust in the Students' Society.

Markowitz's 'principles' may result in the SACOMSS's loss of desperately needed funding. Without the new student levy, the SACOMSS might not be able to maintain key services like the crisis intervention program and the evening crisis hotline.

Cameron said after the hearing that, "we do not receive any benefit from the money that is given to us; that money is used to help others."

If the referendum outcome is up-

held by the Judicial Board, students will pay an additional 50 cents per semester to support SACOMSS' numerous services. Given the results of the referendum, it seems that most students consider this a small price to pay to ensure the continued existence of this organization.

According to Markowitz, whether SACOMSS can continue to provide expanded services is not the main point. What he is concerned with, he said, is the means through which they will achieve their ends.

"I think there is a not so hidden agenda in Markowitz's action," countered Cameron.



DAILY GRAPHIC BY MAX FRANCISCO

Senate takes the money and runs

Dean changes his mind, student proposal ignored

BY JACQUELINE REIS

In a classic student-administration split, Senate blatantly disregarded a student initiated Student Services budget and adopted its own.

"I'm really sort of irked," said Students' Society President Sevag Yeghoyan. "Students are being basically coerced into spending their money the way the Dean [of Students Irwin Gopnik] sees fit. I don't think it's very fair for [the fee increase] to be decided at Senate by Senate because students don't have a majority in Senate."

Jen Small, vp university affairs, added that students' voices were silenced when the non-student majority successfully moved to end discussion and vote on the schedule.

"I can't blame the people who voted against it, because they didn't hear the other side," said Small.

Even voting unanimously against the fee schedule, the approximately 15 student seats on Senate were clearly not enough to out-vote the over 40 non-student senators.

Senate accepted the fee schedule presented by Dean Gopnik despite

the fact that Yeghoyan demonstrated at the previous Senate meeting that the Services budget contained an extra \$110 000.

The \$110 000 was originally allocated for maintenance of the uni-

versity's new athletics facilities. However, Yeghoyan discovered a 1982 referendum in which students agreed to pay for both construction and maintenance of the new facilities through an "exceptional assessment" spread over 15 years, making the money in the Services budget redundant.

"[Dean of Students Irwin Gopnik] has been lobbying in an us-against-them manner. When the Dean of Students makes a budget that compromises my money, that makes me upset."

— Jen Small, Students' Society vp university affairs

versity's new athletics facilities. However, Yeghoyan discovered a 1982 referendum in which students agreed to pay for both construction and maintenance of the new facilities through an "exceptional assessment" spread over 15 years, making the money in the Services budget redundant.

When this fact was brought to Senate on March 8, Yeghoyan suc-

cessfully moved to table the proposed fee rates for two weeks so that students could formulate a proposal for the money.

At the March 8 meeting, Dean Gopnik stated "whatever way the student leaders decide to deal with this... I will agree."

The student proposal, which Yeghoyan claimed had the support of both the Post-Graduate Students Society (PGSS) and Students' Society Council, would have divided the money three ways: \$40 000 to reduce the Student Services fee increase of \$9 to \$8, \$20 000 to replenish the Student Services reserve fund, and

\$50 000 to help complete construction of the new athletics facilities.

Gopnik refused to support the plan, especially the proposal to reduce the fee hike, saying that even with a \$9 increase the reserve fund would be in jeopardy.

"That's one of the frustrations, to hear 'You can do whatever you want with the money, but you can't do that,'" said Small.

Gopnik said the reserve fund now is approximately \$230 000. He would like to see it at five per cent of the Services' \$8 million budget, or \$400 000.

When asked why he reneged on his earlier commitment to follow students' ideas for the \$110 000, Gopnik said he had been misunderstood as a result of students' "adversarial" stance.

"If you assume that you have not a collegial role to play but an adversarial one, that's what happens," said Gopnik after the meeting.

Student leaders took issue with Gopnik's actions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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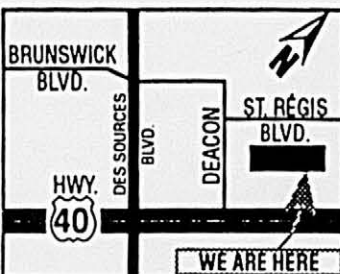
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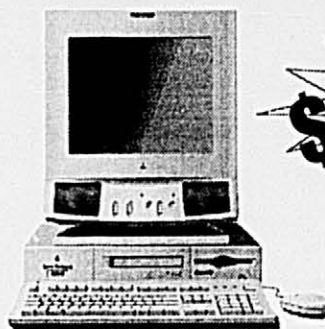
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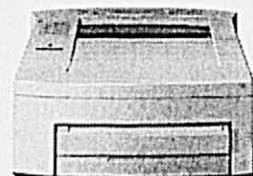
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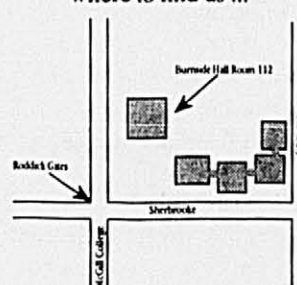
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COMMENT

Silver anniversary of African Studies

Times change but the excuses remain the same

Twenty-five years ago, students fought to have the African Studies major founded at McGill. Having grudgingly established the program to silence its black students in 1970, the university has passively watched a succession of steering committees run it into the ground.

Four years ago, in an attempt to expand the meagre offerings in the program, the Black Students' Network spent a year trying to get the History Department to accept their detailed outline for a new course on African History (there was — and still is — only one in the department). The proposal failed.

One year ago, then-Chair of African Studies, Prof. Frank Kunz, tried to have the major program reduced to a minor just before the summer. Only negative publicity in the student press stopped him. This semester, the program is again threatened by the administration's laziness with regards to seeking funding.

Throwing up their hands in despair, administrators say they cannot sustain a program like African Studies without sufficient funding. What they do not talk about is their obvious reluctance to look for the necessary funds.

"Fundraising is not in my job description," insists the Chair of the African Studies Committee, Myron Echenberg. This is an interesting statement, since it is common practice at most universities, including McGill, for program directors to actively seek the funding that is the lifeblood of university programs.

Echenberg also invoked the tired defense that, "Africa doesn't have a really successful First World country like Japan to turn to for assistance." Such a dismissal clearly ignores all the suggestions which have been made over the last two decades as to where the university could look for funds.

In 1970 student leader Carl Parris said, "Africa does not have the means to finance such projects, but it can be done by people in the United States and Canada, under the direction of Africans."

Twenty-five years later Black Student Network Cultural Coordinator Mebrat Beyene echoed her predecessor's recommendation, saying, "First of all, finding resources means commitment. Second, it's inaccurate to portray Montréal, or Canada, as not having any resources or commitment to African Studies. Rather the lack of resources shows McGill's inactivity in looking for those resources."

Over the past 25 years, most major American universities have implemented and successfully sustained African Studies Majors, but McGill is still only the second university in Canada to do so.

Just last spring, representatives from the Faculty of Arts convinced Canadian billionaire Charles Bronfman to donate ten million dollars to revamp our withering Canadian Studies program. The deal came only weeks after professors tried to cut our withering African Studies program.

The recent university budget gives ominous hints of this, outlining 20 per cent cuts to all faculties across the board. Programs dealing with issues of diversity, race, class and culture are not likely to rank too high on McGill's priority list when entire faculties aren't even considered worthy of its financial support.

If past behaviour is any indication, McGill will, no doubt, use the current climate of debt-hysteria to justify more cuts to African Studies and other "impractical" programs. In 25 years the university has shown that, even in good economic times, African Studies hovers at the bottom of its priority list.

Universities have become financial institutions, like many other "social" institutions in modern society. If something is perceived as a financial drain, administrations are no longer willing to sustain it, no matter how great the social good. McGill should not be excused for allowing education to play a smaller and smaller role in how it allocates its resources. But this attitude is a reality that students have to deal with.

Clearly, if students want to keep studying Africa and the African Diaspora at this university they will have to find their own resources. And they will have to fight for the programs that are important to them.

For all these reasons students are saying no to the university's hypocrisy with regards to the African studies Program. Even if you are not in this program, this is about the education you receive. The times may have changed but the need for a proper, well-rounded education — that offers real choices and real challenges and is not just about making money for the university — still remains.

Melanie Newton and Robin Perelle

Come join more than 25 student and community organisations in showing your support for the African Studies Program and for the implementation of an African Studies Program (which would include comprehensive courses on the peoples of the African Diaspora). Wednesday, 13h30, Arts Building steps. Contact the Black Students' Network for more information.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Senate ignores student proposal



Senate

"He's been lobbying in an us-against-them manner," said Small. "When the Dean of Students makes a budget that compromises my money, that makes me upset," she added.

"I think it's problematic that our president found student money and the student plan for the use of that money isn't being taken seriously by the Dean of Students," said Lisa Grushcow, arts representative to SSMU Council and incoming vp university affairs for 1995-96.

This rupture between the Dean and student leaders is the latest in what has been a tense relationship.

"He's very condescending when he talks about students. It's very tiring by the end

of the year. He's winning — he's wearing me out, goddammit," said Small.

The Senate will now pass the Student Services budget on to the Board of Governors for a final decision on its adoption.

Small and Yeghoyan saw little hope for a different outcome at the Board.

"Due to the collegial nature of... McGill, it would seem odd for the Board of Governors to approve something that might be perceived to be contrary to what Senate voted on last Wednesday," said Yeghoyan.

"We all know that the Board of Governors acts as more of a rubber stamp in this scenario than anything else... I defy them to prove me differently," said Small.

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INFORMAL SEMINARS:

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"Troubled Bodies - Art, Obscenity and the Connoisseur." Seminar presented to the Graduate Programme in Communications, Thursday, March 30, 1995, 11:00 a.m., 3465 Peel Street, Room 203.



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- The **Christian Awareness Club of McGill** is having a Christian Awareness Week from March 26 to April 1. Events include concerts, book tables and special speakers. Check the Shatner building for more details.
- The **Student Christian Movement** is showing "Romero" followed by a discussion at the Yellow Door, 3625 Aylmer at 18h00.
- The **McGill Students for International Development Initiative** are presenting a panel discussion on International Perspectives on International Development at 18h00 in Leacock 324.

TUESDAY MARCH 28

- The **Latin American Awareness Group** presents a talk on the Border conflict between Ecuador and Peru given by Maria-Thérèse Helal at 17h00 in Shatner 425.
- **Group Action** will hold a general meeting and elections at 18h30 in Shatner 410. All welcome. For more info call Lisa at 287-9677.
- The **McGill Institute for the Study of Canada** presents a talk by Professor Bruce Trigger on *Conflicts and Blind Spots: Can Non-Native Scholars Write a History of the Native Peoples of North America?* in room 609, James building from 16h00 to 18h00.

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REVIEWING THE REFORMS

McGill profs give "Ax" an earful

BY ANUP GREWAL

Now that students, community organisations and the government have had their say on the Axworthy proposals for social reform, five McGill professors felt it was their turn.

In an event sponsored by the Economic Student's Association last night, professors Chris Green, Seamus Hogan and Chris Ragan from the economics department joined political science professor Antonita Maioni and Vice-Principal Academic Dr. Tak Hang Chan, in a debate on the reforms to post-secondary education.

The Axworthy proposal outlines a \$2.6 billion cut to federal transfer payments by 1996 and a system of provincial tax points to replace the transfers. The report also proposes a new post-secondary education loan system called Income Contingent Loans (ICLs). Together, these measures would lead to higher tuition fees and increased responsibility on individual students to pay for their education.

Green started the debate by saying "Axworthy has messed up." He explained that as an American he thought "Canada had got it right" in terms of old-age pensions, Medicare and subsidies of higher education.

Maioni took up the criticism, adding that the Axworthy reforms to post-secondary education are "undermining the social contract between the state and the middle class."

Maioni asserted that "we should not let our concerns for the fiscal deficit override our concerns for social welfare." She said that the increase in tuition and the new loan system would "act as a deterrent to poor students" who would not want to risk getting a degree that may not guarantee them employment.

Hogan, Chan and Ragan, while not supporting the Axworthy proposals, all argued that it is necessary to look at who benefits from post-secondary education most when considering the cost of tuition.

Ragan argued that "the benefits of post-secondary education are for the individual and not for society at large, so why should the government be paying for it?"

While agreeing that government subsidies for education will have to decrease, Green said that he was most concerned with "the growing tide of conservatism that says there is no such thing as a public good."

In terms of social benefits, Green commented "social benefits come out of private benefits."

As a response, Hogan said that at the moment, post-secondary education is not a public good because "we are taking money from one sector to help pay for the benefits of another."

Hogan added that what is beneficial to society is in the eyes of the beholder: "if we ask degree holders if their degree has social benefits, they will say yes. If we ask those who do not hold degrees, they will say no."

Hogan brought home his point, saying, "try walking past Gert's at 2 am on a Friday and ask yourself what social benefit you have."

The last round of the debate concentrated on the proposed reforms' impact on the quality of education. Chan argued that both the national standard and the access to various programs in universities of certain provinces will diminish, but not everybody agreed.

Hogan was optimistic about both the tuition hikes and the ICLs. He argued that the ICLs would take the positive step of "funding students instead of universities."

Hogan said that this would mean funds would be mobile and, therefore, universities would face more pressure to improve the quality of education.

Green retorted "those who tout ICL should do the calculations!" He said that the government already gets its money back under the existing system, so the ICLs are "unnecessary".

Also critical of Hogan's argument, Maioni commented that it is a fallacy to think that tuition hikes would mean higher quality education, because tuition is not the only factor in deciding which professors go where and what is taught.

Chan made his point by bringing in the much debated role of a university in providing practical education.

He said "we do not subscribe to the model of teaching students about what is most useful" because what is useful now may not be useful in the future.



DAILY PHOTO BY CAMERON BOOTH

(FROM LEFT) MCGILL PROFESSORS SEAMUS HOGAN AND ANTONITA MAIONI, THE MODERATOR SAUL HALPERN, VICE-PRINCIPAL TAK HANG CHAN, AND PROFESSORS CHRIS RAGAN AND CHRIS GREEN MULLED OVER THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED SOCIAL REFORMS AND THE FUTURE OF THE CANADIAN SOCIAL CONTRACT LAST THURSDAY. THE PROFESSORS ROUNDLY CRITICISED HUMAN RESOURCES MINISTER LLOYD AXWORTHY, AND EACH OTHER, IN THE FORUM.

The McGill Students' International Development Initiative

Long distance links

BY AGATA DE SANTIS

The McGill Students' International Development Initiative (MSIDI), according to its prospectus, "is an interdisciplinary, action oriented, student-run organisation which seeks to encourage and provide long-term associations between McGill students and developing communities overseas." Formed this year, they hope to win student funding in the future.

After participating in a development project overseas, McGill student Mark Sherman, one of the group's coordinators, thought that McGill should have a group dedicated to international development. He discussed the idea with a few interested students and MSIDI was born. Right now there are seven members from the Faculties of Medicine, Law, Arts, Graduate Studies and Engineering.

Their goal is community- and indigenous-based international development. They strongly believe that Western countries should not direct development, but instead assist states in carrying out their own development strategies. The Initiative plans to send a contingent of students abroad once they are ready for international experience.

This summer, however, no aid programs have been set up. Sherman remarked that for this year their only mandate was organisation. They authored a detailed paper of principles, including participation in and education about foreign activities.

Sherman said his group is not funded by McGill University or the Students' Society and does not plan for such assistance. "We want to be student-funded so that we can be independent from the McGill faculties," he added.

Sherman said the group wants to be funded directly by students, as are the Québec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) and The Daily. He said they would hold a referendum on this next year. For now, they have received work space and equipment from QPIRG, which supports the group's initiatives.

Sherman commented that there is a lot of interest in international development from students on campus. "Many projects have already been organised by students and we hope that they will be interested in joining with us." He added that they are looking for motivated and dedicated students to help them plan student projects for the summer of 1996.

There is also a possibility that MSIDI will merge with McGill Students for International Development Education. Sherman commented

that both groups share the same ideals and goals. No plans have been finalised.

For more information, call Mark Sherman at 985-5418. On April 1 MSIDI is presenting a conference on International Health and Development. The conference will deal with defining students' roles in this area. There will be over one hundred participants from different universities, including McGill. The conference will be held in the McIntyre Medical Sciences Building from 9h30 to 17h30.

Tonight MSIDI presents a panel discussion on "Interdisciplinary perspectives on international development." The three speakers will offer health, economic/political and technical/environment perspectives on the issue. It is being held in the Leacock Building, room 324, at 6:00 p.m.

Silencing a voice of the voiceless

Mumia Abu-Jamal: the anatomy of a state execution

BY RYAN FITZGERALD

Few personal stories demonstrate the ugliness of the American justice system as vividly as that of Black journalist and activist Mumia Abu-Jamal. This long-time "voice of the voiceless" had his fate sealed when newly elected Republican Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge promised to sign his death warrant effective upon his taking office earlier this year.

In the decades following the American Civil War a relationship of dependence and subordination was established between the federal government, local governments, and the African-American population.

But this thin veil of legality and litigation cannot hide this disturbing fact — urban police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have increasingly resorted to state-sanctioned execution to silence dissent in urban areas.

The frame-up

In the early morning hours of December 9, 1981 Jamal was ending a long shift as a cab driver. Returning home, he came upon Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner who was beating Jamal's brother Billy. Jamal got out of his cab and was then shot by the officer in the chest. The bullet almost killed him, and the ballistics examination admitted as testimony characterized the blow as "immobilizing."

When the police arrived at the scene the officer was dead and Jamal was lying on the curb, bleeding to death. The police proceeded to beat Jamal before they literally dropped him off, unconscious, at the hospital.

When he recovered, Jamal maintained his innocence. No murder weapon was linked conclusively to his person, and Jamal's testimony was consistent with that of four eyewitnesses who said the shooting was done by a fourth man at the scene who fled on foot.

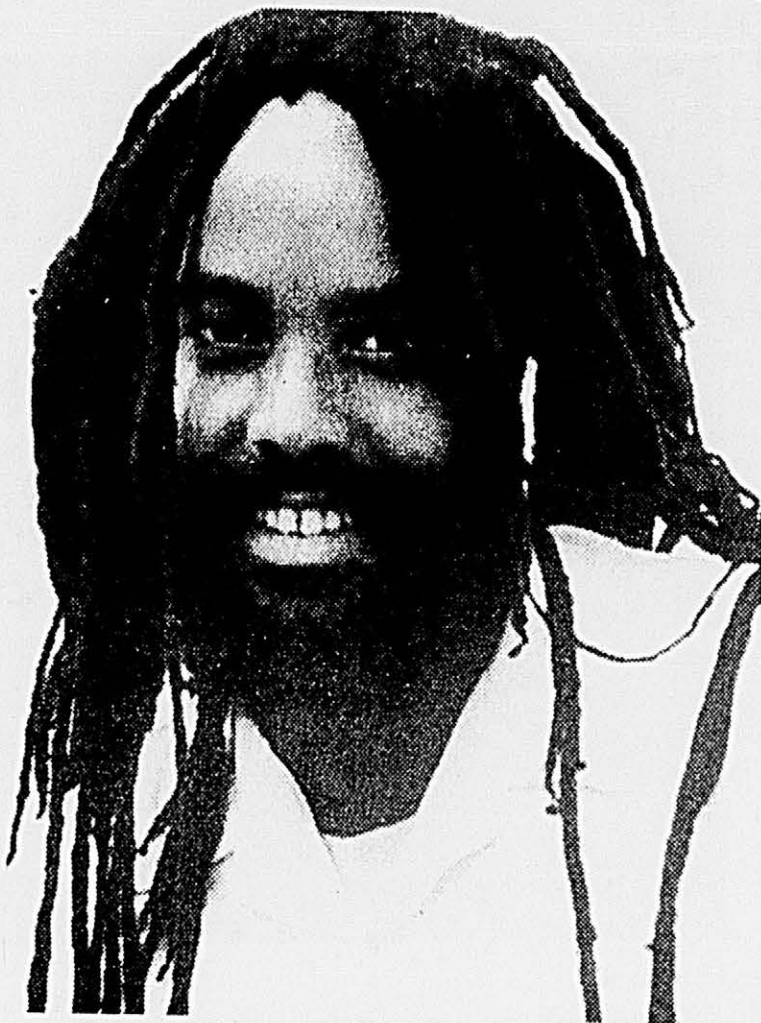
In the typical American courtroom this was not enough evidence to convict a person of murder in the first degree (which is now a capital offense in Pennsylvania), let alone try him for homicide.

But Jamal was not tried in the typical American courtroom.

His case was heard in the court of Justice Albert Sabo. The Philadelphia Inquirer characterized Sabo as a "prosecution-minded judge" who could be "a defense lawyer's nightmare." In a September 13, 1992 article the Inquirer called Sabo the "king of death row."

In 14 years of hearing homicide cases, Sabo has sent 31 people to death row. That is more than any sitting judge on the American bench. One out of six prisoners on death row in Pennsylvania are there because of Justice Sabo.

Philadelphia is unique in that it has a unit of twelve judges who hear nothing but murder cases. In the article, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* quotes Robert Spangenberg, an American Bar Association consultant on capital representation, who believes this



AN INNOCENT MAN TO BE EXECUTED FOR POLITICAL REASONS? JOURNALIST MUMIA ABU-JAMAL.

system invites problems.

"If all you do is homicides year after year, there is a strong likelihood you will get hardened to the cases, and a fixed point of view," said Spangenberg.

The *Inquirer* quoted Edward Randle, the man in charge of the District Attorney's office at the time of Mumia's trial and now mayor of Philadelphia, as saying "The trial depends literally on what judge the case is assigned to."

The attorney assigned to Jamal was given \$150 to investigate the case and one month later asked the court to free him from the case. Shortly afterward he was disbarred. The Partisan Defense Committee (PDS), an American legal defense fund, then stepped in to represent Jamal, who could not afford another attorney. The PDS had its work cut out for it.

The case was tried by Assistant District Attorney Joseph McGill. McGill was a government attorney who worked above the law. In 1978 he was the prosecuting attorney for a murder case involving a Philadelphia man accused of murder.

The man was convicted and served 12 years before he filed a civil suit against McGill and a detective who fabricated evidence in his trial. McGill confessed that he omitted key evidence and that he had also manufactured evidence.

That is a criminal offense. Yet a judge granted McGill complete immunity, stating that "It is clear that all allegations of misconduct are within functions which are protected by a prosecutor's absolute immunity from civil suit."

The man was set free, but McGill was never prosecuted.

Sabo and McGill clearly enjoyed

special legal privileges and exercised them frequently. But why did this constellation of forces converge to try and convict Jamal? Why was he an object of this special treatment?

The voice of the voiceless

Jamal grew up in Philadelphia's north-side ghetto, in a community beset with high structural unemployment and chronic poverty.

While a teenager, Jamal was caught up in the political maelstrom of the 'long, hot summer' of 1968. That August, he was arrested and beaten by plain-clothed Philadelphia police during a demonstration against a rally for presidential candidate George Wallace, the Rhodesian governor of Alabama.

In September 1969 Jamal was arrested by Philadelphia police at the Philadelphia headquarters of the Black Panther Party (BPP), of which Jamal was the Minister of Information.

This was one of 17 similar raids coordinated by the FBI, its extra-legal task force COINTELPRO, and local law-enforcement agencies since the BPP's inception in September, 1966. This particular campaign left 38 Panthers dead and most of the remaining leadership in jail or buried.

Another Philadelphia police raid on the head office in August 1970 paralysed the local Black Panther organization and many of its key figures became political prisoners in Pennsylvania jails.

With political recourse muzzled by federal authorities, Jamal became a journalist and student activist, and continued the Panther's mandate of community self-defense. In the early 1970's several of the most articulate Black social activists and journalists were centred around Philadelphia's

north-side, at institutions such as Temple University.

It was here that a constructive dialogue on American urban politics and public-housing policy was emerging. Jamal's involvement in tenant rights and police brutality issues made him a high profile figure in the struggle for equity, equality, and human rights.

The mid-1970's were the tail-end of the 'Great Society's' social investment program. City governments like Philadelphia were now grappling with the difficult questions posed by a decade and a half of haphazard government intervention and pacification policies.

Jamal's opinions were often at odds with the designs of Washington technocrats in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As billions of tax dollars became involved, the interests of contractors and developers became entrenched in the spiraling flow of capital.

In the midst of this conflict, Jamal became a 'voice of the voiceless,' pressuring local and federal officials to consider the human rights and social well-being of public-housing residents above the gains of construction contracts and the appropriation of tax dollars.

Instead of rehabilitating housing stock, the prevailing policy was to put it to the wrecking-ball, so that the sites could attract more public and private capital investment.

On August 8, 1978 over two hundred Philadelphia police, many armed with assault rifles, stormed a

commune established amongst previously neglected Powelton Village. Jamal was there as a journalist and community leader.

The *Inquirer* quoted Rizzo (who had ordered the neutralization of the BPP years earlier) at a press conference as saying a "new breed of journalism" had been responsible for the situation and that "They believe what you [Jamal and other Philadelphia activist/journalists] write, what you say. And it's got to stop. And one day — and I hope it's in my career — you're going to be held responsible and accountable for what you do."

On December 9, 1981, Mumia Abu-Jamal was shot by a Philadelphia police officer and then charged for that officer's murder.

Since the trial, there has been growing agitation for a reopening of the case and the complete acquittal of Jamal. Demonstrations similar to the one held at Place-des-Arts in Montréal last Saturday afternoon by the Partisan Defense Committee have been occurring as far away as Sydney and Berlin. Unions, community groups, and students' societies have all been lending their voices in protest.

One cannot help but draw parallels between the case of Jamal and that of Black Panther activist Huey Newton.

The Mumia Emergency Response Network hotline is (215) 476-8812

Mumia's E-Mail Address in jail is: mumia@aol.com

as usual

Prof charged with s

BY DULEEPA WIJAYAWARDHANA

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — A professor in the Folklore Department at

Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) is being charged with sexual assault — but the administration has allowed him to continue with his duties at the university.

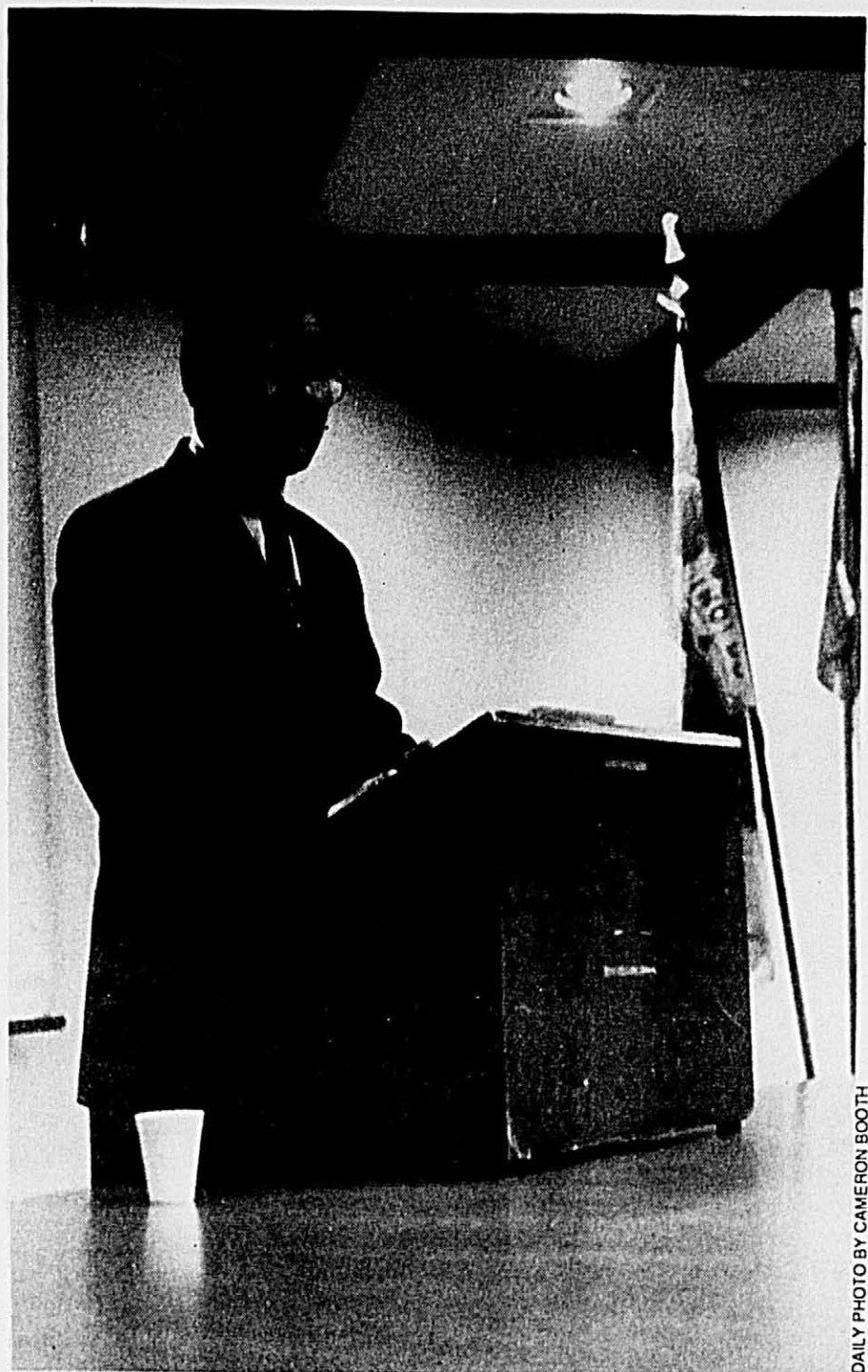
According to Lieutenant Ledwell of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary the professor, Gerald Thomas, was arrested and charged with two counts of sexual harassment — one for sexual exploitation and one for sexual assault — both alleged to have occurred between May and August last year.

But Peter Morris, MUN's information officer, said Thomas can keep teaching until the trial because the victims had no connection to the university.

Claiming that the incident was completely "unrelated to work," Morris added that the MUN Faculty Association's collective agreement with the university guarantees job security even to professors convicted of a crime.

Specifically, the dubious clause states that, "As far as circumstances allow, an academic staff member who has been charged or convicted shall continue to pursue his or her nor-

BUSINESS



Life in the Transcaucasus

Armenian ambassador speaks at McGill

BY AUBREY COHEN

When the Republic of Armenia's Ambassador to Canada, Garnik Nanagulian, came to McGill last Thursday night, he talked about war, poverty, international relations and the spectre of Russian nationalism. For the most part, however, he painted an optimistic picture of a country which "has a lot to offer and share with the international community."

Since March 1, 1995, Nanagulian has been in Ottawa representing Armenia, which gained its independence when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. He spoke to a full house in Leacock 232 on "Post Soviet Geopolitics and Economics in the Transcaucasus."

Russia and its "near abroad"

Nanagulian said that it is important to note Russia's active role in bringing about the fall of the USSR. He said this "created a precedence in Russian history."

As for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) — which officially replaced the Soviet Union, but has not wielded much authority — Nanagulian said that, although it is not a vital political or economic institution, "The CIS provides the security mechanism which prevents the former USSR from becoming like the former Yugoslavia."

The ambassador commented on the prospects for a resurgent Russian empire. Although he conceded that those advocating a re-assertion of the empire are in an influential posi-

tion in Russia, Nanagulian said that government's actions over the past few years "indicate Russia's need to establish a new kind of relationship" with the other former Soviet republics.

As for the prospect of another force, such as NATO, asserting itself in Russia's "near abroad", Nanagulian observed that "Russia would become very suspicious if the power vacuum... was filled by another external power."

War in Nagorno Karabakh

Even before the collapse of the Soviet Union, Armenians and Azerbaijanis started to fight over the mostly Armenian enclave of Nagorno Karabakh. When dividing the Transcaucasus into separate Soviet republics in the early part of the twentieth century, Stalin decided to make this area part of Azerbaijan.

Since the start of Glasnost, Armenians in Nagorno Karabakh have been trying to secede from Azerbaijan. This erupted into a full-scale war involving forces from Armenia. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) negotiated a truce in the area 10 months ago.

According to Nanagulian, this truce is "very fragile." He said peace should be carried out according to the principles of the agreement. This involves, among other things, the placement of peacekeepers in the area.

As for who would constitute the peacekeeping force, the ambassador said he would like to see a multi-national force comprising troops from the member states of the OSCE. In the past, Russia has chafed at the prospect of United Nations peacekeepers in other hot spots in the near abroad, such as Tajikistan.

Armenian domestic situation

Because of, among other things, the war and subsequent blockade imposed by Azerbaijan and Turkey, Armenia has become an impoverished country with high unemployment and severe energy shortages. The latter problem has led the government to decide to reopen its sole Soviet-era nuclear power plant.

Nanagulian outlined the steps his government is taking to reform the economic system in Armenia and improve the situation. He observed that, as a result of land, currency, banking, commerce and other reforms, Armenia is now in the midst of a remarkable economic recovery.

The ambassador acknowledged that reforming the old Soviet authoritarian system "is a long, long process." He said that although Armenia is the most democratic of the post-Soviet republics, it is still governed by the old Soviet constitution, and as such has no division of powers. He said that decentralization was, however, underway.

Armenia's foreign relations

Nanagulian said that both the government and private sector of Armenia are working "very closely" with Iran, and that Armenia relies on Iran for half of its food imports.

He acknowledged that his state is also pursuing the normalisation of relations with Turkey. These relations have been rocky at best,

GARNIK NANAGULIAN, THE ARMENIAN AMBASSADOR TO CANADA, SPEAKS ABOUT THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF ARMENIA AND THE TRANSCAUCASUS AS A WHOLE.

al at Memorial U

sexual harassment can keep teaching, says university

mal university duties."

Kelly Burton-Adams, MUN's sexual harassment advisor, initially voiced concerns about the decision to allow Thomas to continue

associate dean of inter hospital and intergovernmental affairs, resigned after he was accused of sexual misconduct. Bergevin, who was also a practicing doctor at the time, had an affair

al, while the patient was defenseless, isolated and scared."

Although McGill had suspended Bergevin for one semester when the complaint was filed

"As far as circumstances allow, an academic staff member who has been charged or convicted shall continue to pursue his or her normal university duties." — Memorial U Faculty Association's agreement with the Administration

teaching. She pointed out that Thomas could harass or assault a member of the university community while still awaiting a verdict on the last charges.

But after talking to University Relations and reading the collective agreement, Burton-Adams said she would stand behind the university's decision.

In October 1992, Yves Bergevin, McGill's

with an 18 year old patient he was counselling for an unwanted pregnancy.

At the time, the disciplinary committee of the Québec Corporation of Physicians issued a harsh condemnation of the associate dean's behaviour: "This is a case which illustrates, without a doubt, the relation of inequality between a doctor and his patient. The accused was a well-trained and competent profession-

in November 1991, they quickly reinstated him after just one semester — without waiting for a ruling on the charge.

After only a few months of counselling, Dean of Medicine Richard Creuss allowed Bergevin to resume teaching in the Fall semester, claiming that he was no longer a threat. Before the end of the semester Bergevin had been convicted of sexual misconduct and resigned.

— with Daily files

continued on page 9

Equal health care in an unequal world

Women's health conference strives to change priorities

BY MELANIE NEWTON

Is it enough to define "being healthy" as simply the absence of disease, or should wellness and self-esteem be central to the concept of health? How can our society overcome the hurdles of poverty and government policy to ensure that all people have access to "basic health care"?

Students, doctors, women's studies academics and health care activists got together to discuss questions like these at a women's health conference here at McGill last week.

Entitled *Women's Health Matters*, the conference took place in the Faculty Club last Friday. McGill Medicine Professor and Acting Chair of the Centre for Research and Teaching on Women, Abby Lippmann, explained that the conference was a forum to discuss the similarities and differences in women's health issues.

"I want to find the things [women] have in common, but make sure we also deal with the differences, because... we have to always be conscious of where the differences between us matter and make sure we address them in health," said Lippmann.

To this end, said Lippmann, the conference was organised to encompass how such social categories as class, race, culture, sexuality and age impact on women's health issues. It was divided into plenary sessions and discussion groups addressing topics like "Global Perspectives in Women's Health" and "Breast Cancer Matters: An Activist's Approach."

During the plenary sessions people discussed the powerful role of pharmaceutical companies and doctors in dictating how our society treats and defines illnesses.

Some speakers also questioned where the money for research is allocated. For example governments have spent large sums of money on AIDS research, but little of that money has gone to assess how women are affected, although a good deal of research has been conducted on HIV transmission among men.

Participants also questioned why men tend to receive treatment more often than women, even for illnesses which statistically affect women more than men.

Stressing the importance of conferences dealing specifically with women's health matters, conference organiser and Administrative Officer, Blossom Shaffer said, "As you become aware you become more focused. You become less of a person on a conveyor belt and become more aware of your rights."

Lippmann took the fact that 150 women attended the conference as a sign that "people want this kind of thing."

Plans for the future

But one of the conference organisers, McGill Women's Union Exter-

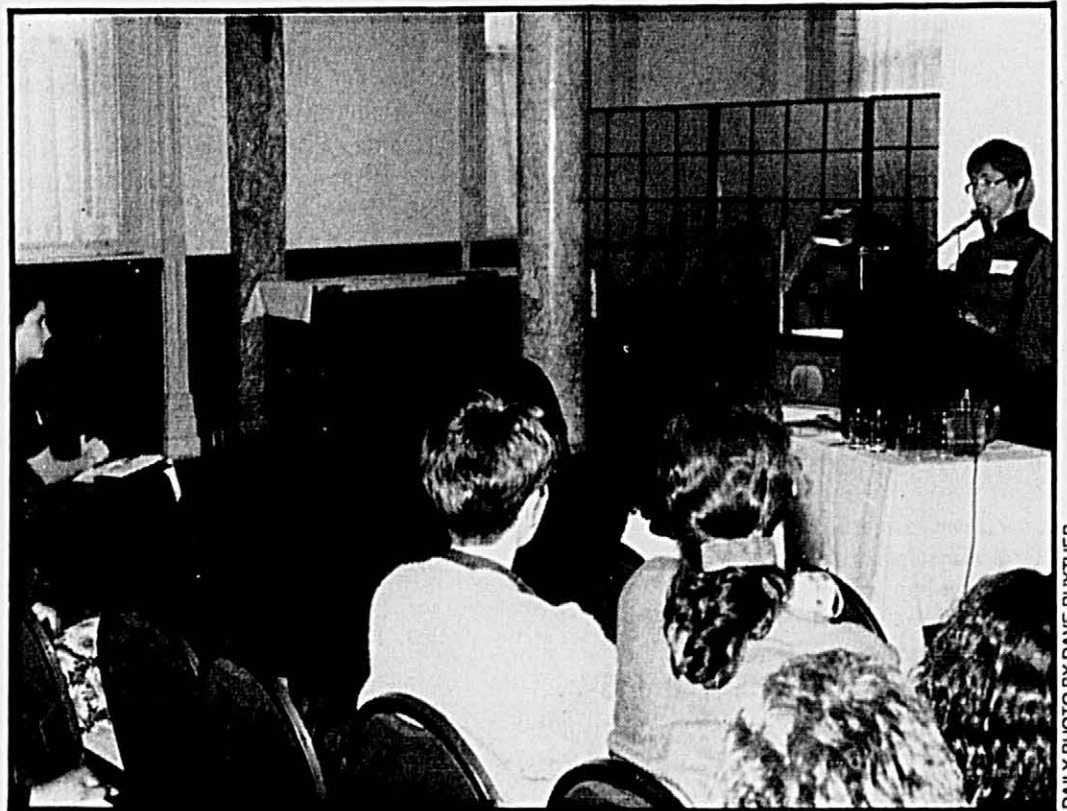
nal Co-ordinator Sara Mayo, said that, while the conference was a success, it was not accessible enough to people outside of the medical field.

Mayo also estimated that only roughly 10 per cent of the students attending the conference were women.

"I saw two types of people coming. I saw the health professional — either the doctors, or medical students, nurses, or health care activists — who are working or will be working with patients. The other people I saw who would be interested were women patients, coming to inform themselves about their own health," said Mayo.

However she said that, if the conference becomes an annual event, as organisers hope it will, there will be time for improvement.

According to Lippmann and Shaffer, once the evaluations and suggestions from the conference have been sorted through, student and faculty organisers will decide where to go next and "figure out issues of priority."



DAILY PHOTO BY DAVE RHYTHIER

MONTREAL BREAST CANCER RESEARCHER DR. SHARON BATT ADDRESSES THE AUDIENCE AT *WOMEN'S HEALTH MATTERS*.

Over-fishing

not just a Newfie problem

Hard times on horizon for Chilean fishers

BY JOHN SAUNDERS

Following the disastrous example of Canada's east coast fishery, small-scale fishing is fast approaching a state of crisis in many parts of Chile. In Los Vilos, a small coastal town 200 km north of the capital, Santiago, some stocks are already on the verge of depletion.

Chile's small-scale fishers have become increasingly frustrated with government inaction and encroaching large-scale operators. Victor Tapia, secretary of the Los Vilos fishing union, spoke to the McGill *Daily* about the connection between bureaucracy, free trade and the disappearance of a traditional way of life.

While legislation protecting certain zones for small fishers does exist in Chile, it is seldom enforced. "Industrial fishers don't respect the boundaries. We small fishers don't have the resources to patrol the areas, let alone enforce the law," noted Tapia.

In 1988, while Chile was still under direct military dictatorship, small-scale operators formed a fishers' association in Los Vilos. The move was essentially a defensive measure, said Tapia. "We weren't trying to have big strikes". Members hoped to organise and learn from each other's experiences, since "one problem

for us is that many fishers don't have much more than primary education," he added.

Despite their initial success at building solidarity and cooperative education, members are still faced with declining fish stocks. Attempts to impose *vedas* (time periods prohibiting the fishing of certain species) have proven unsuccessful. Lax enforcement and an ineffective system of fines have actually tended to encourage over-fishing and create conflicts between fishers.

The fishers argue that the root of the problem is the lack of political will to protect stocks. Despite pressure from their national union, the Chilean National Corporation of Small-Scale Fishers (CONAPACH), the interests of fishers have been consistently ignored by the Secretary of Fishing. "He doesn't have the necessary experience...he's just interested in passing laws," said Tapia.

Small-scale fishers voiceless

Small organisations claim they have been totally shut out of consultations to improve stock management. They argue that they are often barred from meetings and are rarely given a chance to voice their concerns. For small-scale fishers, sending even a small local delegation to meetings is a major sacrifice, since representatives have to give up days

of work and must pay for their own transportation and accommodation.

These problems do not affect large companies in the same way. Large-scale operations have also been successful in managing to influence government legislation to their benefit. Tapia argues that even the timing of *vedas* was set to accommodate the interests of large companies.

The presence of foreign boats in Chilean waters also threatens local enterprises. Tapia cited incidents in which Japanese companies "donated" boats to the Chilean government in exchange for the right to conduct studies. The "samples" taken for research are actually several tonnes of fish, destined for sale overseas. Less sophisticated techniques include simply ignoring national limits and bribing government inspectors.

Despite the overwhelmingly negative experience with government officials and large fishing companies, local operators were initially supportive of efforts to include Chile in the North American Free Trade Agreement. With more access to international markets, fishers were hoping to be able to sell more fish at higher prices. But Chilean fishers have yet to be included in negotiations.

"At first we thought free trade would be good for us, but we weren't consulted at all. We were left out of the entire process," Tapia said.

Fisher militancy mounting

Increasing pressure on local fishing operations has led to a change in the union's tactics. Recent attempts to convince the government of economic and environmental reasons for protecting stocks have had little success. Tapia noticed a new militancy emerging as the situation grows worse. Recent proposals to build road blocks with old boats in order to pressure the government have met with great support. Tapia says that many small-scale fishers think "the time for talking is over".

In another recent act of defiance, fishers from Los Vilos joined with groups from two other towns in sailing out to confront foreign vessels fishing in Chilean waters. The protesters hurled potatoes and insults at the ships.

In Los Vilos, 8 per cent of the population earn their living directly from fishing and many more from fishing-related enterprises. Immediate and far-reaching solutions are required if the community is to survive. Despite his support for more direct action on the part of the union, Tapia believes it is only a matter of time before local stocks are wiped out.

When asked about the future, Tapia shrugs his shoulders and said "When the fishing runs out, people will have to move away in order to earn a living".

Life in Transcaucasus

continued from
page 7

due to Turkey's allegiance with Azerbaijan and the historical feud between Turkey and Armenia over the Turkish genocide of Armenians during World War I.

When an audience member expressed anger at the Armenian government's willingness to normalise relations with Turkey, Nanagulian quipped that his country "doesn't have the luxury to choose its neighbours." He added that discussion of the historical issues between the two countries is "on the agenda" for the negotiations.

The Armenian diaspora

The issue of relations with Turkey is only one area where Armenians in Armenia and members of the diverse Armenian diaspora seem to disagree. Nanagulian acknowledged that "a cultural gap" exists between these two groups and noted, "Sometimes it's very easy to be in a country like Canada... and to speculate [on what the government of Armenia should do]."

The ambassador also acknowledged, however, the key role that diaspora Armenians have played in sending aid and in securing aid from foreign governments. He noted that 40 per cent of his state's budget comes from foreign investments.

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Our General Assembly on March 23, was a huge success and we are pleased to announce the new coordinating committee for 1995-96

Coordinator: *Hugh Potter*

Secretaries: *Laurie Occhipinti
Masoud Roshan*

Bargaining Committee:
*Elaine MacDonald, Lisa Carrozza, Jim Cahill
Joseph O'Shea, Michael Temelini.*

Information Organizer: *Andrew Vreugdenhil*

Health & Safety: *Behrooz Ahmadi*

The following positions are still vacant:

One Co-ordinator, Treasurer, Grievance, Equity, one Information Officer.

If you are interested in standing for one of these positions, please contact Hugh Potter at the AGSEM office.

The 1994-95 Co-ordinating Committee would like to congratulate the new committee and wish them the best of luck with further negotiations with McGill. If you missed the meeting and still want to get involved just give us a shout at the numbers below!!

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The McGill Institute for the Study of Canada announces its sixth seminar

Professor Bruce Trigger
Department of Anthropology, McGill University
holder of the Innis-Gérin Medal of the Royal Society of Canada, the Prix du Québec, 1991, and many other honours and awards, will speak on:

Conflicts and Blind Spots: Can Non-Native Scholars Write a History of the Native Peoples of North America?

Where - Room 609, James Administration Building
When - Tuesday, 28 March 1995, 4 to 6 p.m.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Events

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29

- The **McGill Entrepreneurs** are holding a sale in Shatner 107/108 from 09h00 to 17h00, Wednesday to Friday.
- The **Women's Studies** Wine and Cheese will be held from 15h30 to 17h30 in Leacock 738.

UPCOMING

- Marty Glaberman, Professor Emeritus from Wayne State University in Detroit, will speak on *Labour and Social Change: The Role of Students, Workers and the Unemployed* at 20h00 on Thursday, March 30th in Leacock 26. Sponsored by the **McGill Daily**. For more information call 398-6784.
- Prof. Lynda Nead will speak on *The Female Nude: Traditions and Contemporary Interventions* on Thursday, March 30 at 17h30 in Leacock 26.
- Brian Craik of the Grand Council of the Cree will speak on *The Politics of Cree Opposition to Resource Development Intrusions* on Friday, March 31 from 12h30 to 14h30 at 2020 University, 24th Floor. Lunch will be served. All are welcome.
- The **Caribbean Students' Society** will hold their "Jump and Wave one last time" party in Shatner 310 from 21h30 to 02h00 on Friday, March 31st. Tickets are \$3 (members)/\$4 (non-members). For information call 938-8437 or 935-3766.
- *International Health and Development: Defining the Student's Role* will be a one-day conference on Saturday, April 1 in the McIntyre Medical Building, 6th Floor. To register, or for more info, call 985-5418.
- *International Health and Development: Defining the Student's Role* will be a one-day conference on Saturday, April 1 in the McIntyre Medical Building, 6th Floor. To register, or for more info, call 985-5418.
- The **Department of Hispanic Studies** presents Carlos Fuentes on Wednesday, April 5th at 19h00 in Leacock 132. Fuentes will speak on *Imagination and History*.
- Prof. Carmen Lambert will speak on *Leader's Discourse: Peoples' Beliefs* on Friday, April 7 from 12h30 to 14h00 at 2020 University 24th Floor. Lunch will be served. All are welcome.
- The **Downtown YMCA** is seeking volunteers for the annual Bill Lewis Spring Race on Sunday, April 30th. To volunteer, call 849-8393 (ext. 734 or 791) or drop by the Downtown YMCA.



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the blue has
faded and when
it's not on
your back it's
on the back of
a chair. But
when you're
heading out
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always put
on. You know
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comfortable
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McGill student looking for apt. 2 1/2, 3 1/2, furnished, sublet. 1st May to 1st September. Downtown near McGill campus. Pls. call Christine 457-0359.

Condos (2), Sherbrooke - Hutcheson. 1-2 levels, modern, quiet, extra clean, 2-3 bdrms, 5 appl., curtains, carpets, a/c, garden, sundeck, \$1025-\$1075/month. Garage extra. 340-1884.

Heart of Downtown. Beautifully renovated apts. at a reasonable price. 3 1/2, 4 1/2, available. If interested call: 284-5650 or 849-3897.

4 1/2, Sublet! May 1-June 31. 1min to McGill, 2min to gym. Laundry, parking, heat, hot water included. Asking \$700/month. Option to renew. Call 985-5417.

Metro Lionel-Groulx 4 1/2 July 1. Brock walls, ceiling fans, stove, fridge, wash/dryer, windowblinds. Modern w/charm. Quiet owner ov. Ref. required \$485. 933-0760

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Chercheur en sciences cognitives recherche étudiant(e)s francophones pour une expérience sur le langage \$10/h. Pour info. tél.: 284-6561 entre 9h et 21h.

Treeplanting in B.C. Near Whistler. Good company, excellent foreman. Big \$. Call Chris @ 288-3811. Lv. message.

Female models, actresses needed for photo shoot. Professional pictures in exchange. 633-8605. Leave message.

Counselors Wanted. Trim down-fitness, co-ed, NYS camp. 100 positions: sports, crafts, many others. Camp Shane, Ferndale, NY 12734. (914) 271-4141.

Tree Planting British Columbia spring 1995, experienced foreman seeking experienced planters. Call Joe 278-4645 weekdays 12-5 pm leave message.

College Pro Summer Jobs Positions available: Production manager (car needed), Trainer, Foreman, Painter- 10-6.75\$/hr. call Michael @ 282-7666.

Summer Jobs: Run your own business, gain valuable business experience while building your résumé. Earn up to \$10,000 (25 jobs). High demand product, irrigation sales and installation. The ideal opportunity. Vehicle required. Student sprinklers. Call 1-800-265-7691.

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Summer Jobs: International Health/Nutrition Co. needs students for part time/full time work. (Kevin: 856-4717)

5 - TYPING SERVICES

Word Processing.

(937-8495) Term papers, résumés, forms design, correspondence, manuscripts (Laser/Fax/Photocopier) 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (7 days) (near Atwater)

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McGill College/Sherbrooke. Quality word processing of term papers, theses, résumés. Bilingual. Also diskette laser printing at 600 dpi. Ginette 848-0423.

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Resumes by MBA's. Student rates, ACCIS Forms. Better Business Bureau member. 3000+ students served. Owner worked for Proctor & Gamble, Heinz and General Foods. Prestige (on Guy). 939-2200.

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6 - SERVICES OFFERED

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7 - ARTICLES FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 12" RGB Colour monitor for use with Apple Macintosh. Two years old. Excellent condition. Asking \$200 or best offer. Leave message at 457-3639.

Alwa Stereo Cassette Deck. 3 head Dolby. 3 yrs. old. Barely used. **Wedding gown** chiffon and lace. Best offer. \$300 or best offer. 486-4198 Marian.

10 - RIDES/TICKETS

New York New York Easter. Departures: April 13 & 14 from \$149 quadruple occupancy. Including: Videocoach-Hotel-Sightseeing-Taxes-Leader. Pat: 354-3630.

12 - PERSONAL

Come and practice your French with francophones. Club Half and Half. Tel.: 465-9128.

(Women) **Expressive Arts Therapy Group** offers the opportunity for self-exploration through creative means, helping you to express and deal with personal issues (i.e. self-esteem & relationships). Wed. 6:30-8:30. Call Debbie 482-1608 before 5 pm.

13 - LESSONS/COURSES

Learning the Chinese-Mandarin Bible. A new method of learning the Chinese language is offered by McGill Chaplaincy every Thursday night 7-9 at the Newman Centre, 3484 Peel St. It is a free introductory course for conversation and reading. 982-1798 Andrew.

Come and practice your French with francophones. Club Half and Half. Tel.: 465-9128.

Medicine

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14 - NOTICES

Walksafe Network 398-2498. Anyone, anywhere every night Sunday to Thursday 7:00-12:45. Friday and Saturday 7:00-2:30. Please call 30 min. in advance.

McGILL NIGHTLINE

McGill Nightline is an information, listening and referral service. Open 6pm-3am. 398-6246.

LBGM discussion grps. Wed. 5:30 Bi-Group Shatner 423. Thurs. 6PM woman's grp. Shatner 423. Fri. coming-out 5:30 & General 7PM, 3521 University. All welcome.

Don't Ask for Your Rights; Take 'Em! OPIRG accepting proposals for summer stipends and fall projects until April 7. For more info call 398-7432.

15 - VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers for the annual YMCA Bill Lewis Spring Race to be held on Sunday April 30th 1995. If you wish to volunteer your time, drop by the downtown YMCA or call us at 849-8393, local 734 or 791. Help us stage a successful race.

Get your message across... Advertise in the McGill Daily! Call Letty or Boris at 398-6790 TODAY! Last issue: April 6th DEADLINE: MARCH 30th

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Department of English Prizes and Awards

The **KAY MACIVER MEMORIAL PRIZE**, worth \$275, for the best English essay by an undergraduate on a subject in the field of English Canadian or French Canadian literature, to be nominated by instructors.

CREATIVE WRITING

The **MONA ADILMAN PRIZE IN POETRY**, worth \$650 - or \$325 for two students, is open to undergraduate or graduate students registered in the Faculty of Arts for the best poem or group of poems relating to ecological or environmental concerns.

The **CLARK LEWIS MEMORIAL PRIZE**, worth \$250, is open to major or honours students in the Department of English. The prize is awarded annually or from time to time for original plays staged in the course of the academic year.

The **CHESTER MACNAGHTEN PRIZES IN CREATIVE WRITING** (two prizes, one of \$500 and another of \$350) are open to undergraduate students of the University for the best piece of creative writing in English, i.e. a story, a play, a poem, an essay, etc. Printed compositions are ineligible if they have been published before April 12, 1995.

The **PETERSON MEMORIAL PRIZE**, worth \$1,500, is open to undergraduate or graduate students registered in a degree program in the Department of English.

The **LIONEL SHAPIRO AWARDS FOR CREATIVE WRITING**, three prizes of \$1,000 each, to be distributed if possible among the genres of poetry, fiction, screen writing and playwrighting. Each prize to be awarded on the recommendation of the Department of English to students in the final year of the B.A. course who have demonstrated outstanding talent. (A note from your academic adviser verifying you will have completed your program requirements and the minimum credits required by the Faculty of Arts (by April 1995) MUST accompany your submission.)

These competitions are restricted to students who have not previously won the First Prize.

Forms to be completed (for the creative writing prizes and awards) are available in the Department of English General Office, Arts 155. Submissions must be in duplicate.

DEADLINE:

Wednesday, April 12, 1995

12

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Marty Glaberman

Professor Emeritus at Wayne State, Detroit Michigan

Former production worker in the auto industry

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Labour and social change:

The role of students, workers and the unemployed

8 pm Thursday March 30

Leacock 26

THE MCGILL DAILY would like to thank

Comair

DELTA CONNECTION



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